



***Substitute House Bill No. 5456***

***Public Act No. 16-130***

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE  
DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTION SERVICES  
FOR REVISIONS TO THE MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTION  
SERVICES STATUTES.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

Section 1. Section 17a-456 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2016*):

There shall be a Board of Mental Health and Addiction Services that shall consist of: (1) Nineteen members appointed by the Governor, subject to the provisions of section 4-9a, five of whom shall have had experience in the field of substance abuse, five of whom shall be from the mental health community, three of whom shall be physicians licensed to practice medicine in this state who have had experience in the field of psychiatry, two of whom shall be psychologists licensed to practice in this state, two of whom shall be persons representing families of individuals with psychiatric disabilities, and two of whom shall be persons representing families of individuals recovering from substance [abuse problems] use disorders; (2) the chairmen of the regional mental health boards established pursuant to section 17a-484; (3) one designee of each such board; (4) two designees from each of the five subregions represented by the substance abuse subregional

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planning and action councils established pursuant to section 17a-671; (5) one designee from each mental health region established pursuant to section 17a-478, each of whom shall represent individuals with psychiatric disabilities, selected by such regional mental health boards in collaboration with advocacy groups; and (6) one designee from each of the five subregions represented by such substance abuse subregional planning and action councils, each of whom shall represent individuals recovering from substance [abuse problems] use disorders, selected by such substance abuse subregional planning and action councils in collaboration with advocacy groups. The members of the board shall serve without compensation except for necessary expenses incurred in performing their duties. The members of the board may include representatives of nongovernment organizations or groups, and of state agencies, concerned with planning, operation or utilization of facilities providing mental health and substance abuse services, including consumers and providers of such services who are familiar with the need for such services, except that no more than half of the members of the board shall be providers of such services. Appointed members shall serve on the board for terms of four years each and members who are designees shall serve on the board at the pleasure of the designating authority. No appointed member of the board shall be employed by the state or be a member of the staff of any institution for which such member's compensation is paid wholly by the state. A majority of the board shall constitute a quorum.

Sec. 2. Subsection (c) of section 17a-485d of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2016*):

(c) The Commissioner of Social Services shall take such action as may be necessary to amend the Medicaid state plan to provide for coverage of optional adult rehabilitation services supplied by providers of mental health services or substance abuse rehabilitation

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services for adults with serious and persistent mental illness or who have alcoholism or other substance [abuse conditions] use disorders, that are certified by the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services. The Commissioner of Social Services shall adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, to implement optional rehabilitation services under the Medicaid program. The commissioner shall implement policies and procedures to administer such services while in the process of adopting such policies or procedures in regulation form, provided notice of intention to adopt the regulations is printed in the Connecticut Law Journal within forty-five days of implementation, and any such policies or procedures shall be valid until the time final regulations are effective.

Sec. 3. Subsection (e) of section 17a-485d of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2016*):

(e) The Commissioner of Mental Health and Addiction Services shall have the authority to certify providers of mental health or substance abuse rehabilitation services for adults with serious and persistent mental illness or who have alcoholism or other substance [abuse conditions] use disorders for the purpose of coverage of optional rehabilitation services. The Commissioner of Mental Health and Addiction Services shall adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, for purposes of certification of such providers. The commissioner shall implement policies and procedures for purposes of such certification while in the process of adopting such policies or procedures in regulation form, provided notice of intention to adopt the regulations is printed in the Connecticut Law Journal no later than twenty days after implementation and any such policies and procedures shall be valid until the time the regulations are effective.

Sec. 4. Subsection (a) of section 17a-485i of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*

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October 1, 2016):

(a) The Commissioner of Mental Health and Addiction Services shall, within available appropriations, operate a behavioral health recovery program to provide clinical substance abuse treatment, psychiatric treatment and nonclinical recovery support services, which are not covered under the Medicaid program, for individuals with substance [abuse] use disorders or psychiatric disabilities who are eligible for Medicaid pursuant to Sections 1902(a)(10)(A)(i)(VIII) and 1902(k)(2) of the Social Security Act. Services provided under the program may include, but shall not be limited to, residential substance abuse treatment, recovery support services, peer supports, housing assistance, transportation, food, clothing and personal care items. The Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services shall be responsible for all services and payments related to the provision of the behavioral health recovery support services for eligible recipients.

Sec. 5. Subsection (p) of section 17a-451 of the 2016 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2016*):

(p) The commissioner may contract for services to be provided for the department or by the department for the prevention of mental illness or substance [abuse] use in persons, as well as other mental health or substance [abuse] use disorder services described in section 17a-478 and shall consult with providers of such services in developing methods of service delivery.

Sec. 6. Subsection (a) of section 17a-674 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2016*):

(a) There is established a Substance [Abuse] Use Disorder Revolving Loan Fund. The fund shall contain any moneys required by law to be

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deposited in the fund and may contain any other funds as provided in subsection (b) of this section. The fund shall be administered and used by the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services for loans to private nonprofit agencies for the cost of establishing group homes for four or more persons recovering from substance [abuse problems] use disorders. Payments made on any loans made pursuant to this section shall be deposited in said fund.

Sec. 7. Subsection (a) of section 17a-710 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2016*):

(a) It shall be the policy of the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services to develop and implement treatment programs for [substance-abusing] pregnant women of any age with substance use disorders and their children. The department shall seek private and public funds for such programs. Each program shall, to the extent possible and within available appropriations, offer comprehensive services, including (1) education and prevention programs in high schools and family planning clinics; (2) outreach services to identify pregnant women with substance [abusers] use disorders early and enroll them in prenatal care and substance abuse treatment programs; (3) case management services; (4) hospital care with substance abuse treatment available in coordination with obstetric services; (5) pediatric care, including therapeutic care for neurologically, behaviorally or developmentally impaired infants; (6) child care for other siblings; (7) classes on parenting skills; (8) home visitation for those who need additional support or who are reluctant to enter a treatment program; (9) access to WIC and other entitlement programs; (10) vocational training for mothers seeking entry to the job market; and (11) a housing component. To the extent possible all services shall be coordinated to be delivered from a centralized location, utilizing medical vans where available and providing transportation assistance

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when needed.

Approved June 7, 2016